

MINUTES
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
May 12, 2010 - 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

I. ROLL CALL

Agency: Sutphen, Ashworth, Block, Furlong, Williams
Staff: Jones, Silsby

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairperson Sutphen 7:01 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS - None

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF April 28, 2010

MOTION: To approve the minutes of April 28, 2010, as amended.

A typo was corrected.

Motion made by Ashworth, seconded by Furlong, so voted unanimously

IV. NEW APPLICATIONS - None

V. PENDING

1. St. Andrews Presbyterian Church Parking Lot Reconstruction, 310 Fort Hill Road

Representing St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Edward Wenke of Site & Structures LLC reviewed the updated plan to reconstruct the parking lot and increase parking spaces. He reviewed the elevations and grading, and stated that the pavement will be shifted away from the wetlands. Wenke stated that the Ledge Light Health District (LLHD) has reviewed the plans and submitted a letter to the Town dated April 15, 2010 giving specific concerns that have been addressed. He noted that a planting strip has been proposed within 100 feet of the upland review area, which includes a conservation mix, mower restrictions, and the planting of a number of native shrubs.

It was noted that invasive vegetation will be cleared out manually and that no herbicide will be used. Staff noted that an erosion area will be stabilized as part of the plan.

MOTION: To approve the St Andrews Presbyterian Church Parking Lot Reconstruction application for the following reasons:

1. There is no loss of wetland or watercourse associated with this project.
2. The erosion control plan will protect the wetlands from disturbance during construction.

This permit is subject to the four standard conditions and the following additional conditions:

1. The slope south of the reconstructed parking area shall be stabilized with erosion control matting.

Motion by Block, seconded by Ashworth

MOTION: To amend to add the following condition

2. There shall be no herbicide application within 100 feet of the wetlands.

Motion by Block, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously, as amended.

2. Electric Boat Site Remediation, 456 Poquonnock Road

Staff stated that staff review has been completed. She explained the minor changes that were made.

Steven Ewing, Vice President of Woodard & Curran in New Jersey and Applicant Paul Williams were present for the application. Ewing reviewed the revised plan. He stated that the ash pile removal from Town owned property will be done by a vac truck. Other revision controls will be covered during excavation. He explained the revisions that have been made. He noted that some areas will remain paved while other areas will be loamed and seeded. A final report will be submitted to the Wetland Agency when remediation is complete.

Furlong requested that the water be tested after it flows from the property, to confirm that there will be no impact to the shellfish areas. Ewing explained that water flows into the creek and then into a box culvert, and does not anticipate any migration of contaminant into Birch Plain Creek. However, when the remediation is complete, Ewing will have the water tested. Ewing stated that post excavation monitoring will be overseen by the State.

Staff stated that in response to a referral made to the City of Groton Conservation Commission, a letter dated 5/5/10 has been received stating that the City would like a copy of the report issued to the town upon completion of the remediation, showing what materials have been removed from the site.

MOTION: To approve the Electric Boat Soil Remediation application for the following reasons:

There will be no wetlands or watercourses filled as a result of this project.

1. The removal of contaminated material from the site will eliminate the possibility of the contaminants migrating to the wetlands.

This permit is subject to the four standard conditions and the following condition

1. Birch Plain Creek, just south of Area RD06, shall be tested for the contaminants being removed from the site once the remediation is complete.

Motion by Williams, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Wilson Property, 0 Lambtown Road – Show Cause Hearing

Anne Brown spoke on behalf of the property owners Christopher & Dana Wilson, who live in Vermont. She stated that the owners were not aware of the unpermitted activity that was going on at their property on Lambtown Road. She stated that the owners had not authorized anyone to do anything on their property. The Wilsons are very concerned and have hired a local attorney to resolve these issues. Brown reviewed the maps and requested the Agency to Table the Show Cause Hearing in order to give the Wilsons an opportunity to investigate the situation.

Staff explained that this violation came to light during the enforcement of an Order on the abutting property at 0 Lambtown Road, owned by Lambtown Development, LLC. She gave details about the status of Lambtown Development's Order. She stated that the dirt road was constructed on the Wilsons property. Various maps and photos were distributed, reviewed, and discussed. Staff explained that the Wilsons are responsible for work on their property even though this was not their doing. Staff does not believe that the Wilsons created the violation or were aware that it had taken place.

MOTION: To continue the Show Cause hearing until the 6/23/10 meeting.

Motion made by Block, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously

2. Report of Chair

Sutphen referred to the status of the repair work on Fishtown Road. She feels strongly that something should be done about the sediment that eroded into Eccleston Brook during the March rain. Staff will check into this.

Furlong has received correspondence from people who have noticed a chlorine smell on Fort Hill near the water tower. Staff will contact Groton Utilities.

3. Report of Staff

Staff received a letter from Applicant Erik Kudlis of Erik Design Build in regards to a permit previously issued to install a geo thermal well at 767 River Road. The Applicant has requested to install two (2) shallow geo thermal wells instead of one deep well. Staff explained the reasons for having two wells instead of one. Staff asked if an additional permit would be needed. A consensus was reached that no additional permit would be required.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Barbara Block, Secretary
Inland Wetland Agency

Prepared by Robin Silsby
Office Assistant II